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**Amendments to the Claims:**

1.-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The bearing according to claim ~~[[18]]~~27, wherein the concentric emergency bearing surfaces extend in an axial direction.

20. (Currently Amended) The bearing according to claim ~~[[18]]~~27, wherein the concentric emergency bearing surfaces have in cross-section of a step shape.

21. (Currently Amended) The bearing according to claim ~~[[18]]~~27, wherein the concentric emergency bearing surfaces extend obliquely relative to the axis of rotation.

22. (Currently Amended) The bearing according to claim ~~[[18]]~~27, further including:

a bearing lid cover defined by projections on which the emergency bearing surfaces are carried.

23. (Currently Amended) The bearing according to claim ~~[[18]]~~27, wherein the gap between the emergency bearing surfaces is less than 0.1 mm.

24. (Currently Amended) The bearing according to claim ~~[[18]]~~27, wherein the gap between the emergency bearing surfaces is less than 0.05 mm.

25. (Currently Amended) The bearing according to claim ~~[[18]]~~27, wherein the emergency bearing surfaces are fabricated of steel.

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26. (Currently Amended) The bearing according to claim [[18]]27, wherein the emergency bearing surfaces are fabricated of tempered roller bearing steel.

27. (Currently Amended) The A ball bearing according to claim 18, comprising:

an inner race and outer race serving as a mounting device and for guidance of a rotating machine component during normal operation;

5 an emergency bearing defined by:

emergency bearing surfaces disposed concentric relative to an axis of rotation, one of the concentric bearing surfaces being a component of a rotating bearing race and the other of the concentric bearing surfaces being a component of a stationary bearing race;

10 the emergency bearing surfaces being disposed opposite to each other during normal operation with a gap defined therebetween, such that in the event of failure of the ball bearing, the emergency bearing surfaces of the emergency bearing are configured to assume mounting and guidance functions of the failed ball bearing  
15 only during a one-time emergency rundown to a standstill of the rotating machine component;

a size of the gap being selected in such a manner that the emergency bearing surfaces positioned opposite each other are in contact with each other only during the emergency rundown, such that damage to the rotating machine component  
20 is avoided;

wherein at least one of the emergency bearing surfaces is coated.

28. (Currently Amended) A machine including:

a stator;

a rotor which supports itself on ball bearings;

a drive which drives the rotor;

5 a converter which, in response to an increase in driving power by a preselected amount, switches the drive to a failure mode;

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at least one of the ball bearings being equipped with an emergency bearing, according to claim ~~[[18]]~~27;

the emergency bearing surfaces being made of a material such that  
10 friction generated during the emergency rundown increases the driving power by the preselected amount and the converter switches over to the failure mode.

29. (Previously Presented) The machine according to claim 28, wherein the emergency bearing surfaces are made of steel.

30. (Previously Presented) The machine according to claim 28, wherein the emergency bearing surfaces are made of tempered roller bearing steel.

31. (Previously Presented) The machine according to claim 28, wherein at least one of the two emergency bearing surfaces is coated.

32. (Previously Presented) The machine according to claim 28, wherein the machine is a friction vacuum pump.

33. (Previously Presented) The friction vacuum pump according to claim 32, further including:  
a blocking gas device.

34. (Previously Presented) The bearing according to claim 27, wherein the emergency bearing surfaces are coated with a material which (1) increases an amount of friction, and (2) reduces a tendency of the bearing surfaces to seize.

35. (Currently Amended) The bearing according to claim ~~[[18]]~~27, wherein the emergency bearing surfaces are configured such that in the event of the failure of the ball bearing, the emergency bearing surfaces form a friction bearing which (1) assumes the mounting and guidance functions of the failed  
5 ball bearing, (2) increases friction which is sufficient to trigger a failure mode in a

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drive which is driving the rotating machine component and bring the rotating machine component to a stop.

36. (Cancelled)